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News Release

Contact: Charles Pollock
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FOR RELEASE: September 30, 1985

MACHINE TOOL SHIPMENTS FOR AUGUST UP 11%

The National Machine Tool Builders' Association reported today that August shipments of machine tools were $215.9 million for the month, up 10.8% from the July total. This was a 31.4% improvement over the same month last year. Cumulative shipments for the first eight months of 1985 totaled $1.5 billion, also up by 10.8% from the similar period in 1984.

Shipments of metal cutting machine tools stood at $143.1 million in August, up 14.4% from July, up 22.3% from August, 1984, and up 6.3% for year-to-date. Shipments of metal forming machine tools were $72.9 million, up 4.4% from July, up 53.7% from August, 1984, and up 20.6% year-to-date.

"The traditional summer order doldrums, during periods of modest growth in the general economy, are always suspenseful for the machine tool industry. Fortunately, recent improvements in the economic indicators that most directly affect manufacturing, provide us some cause for optimism about orders throughout the latter months of 1985. As American manufacturers activate plans to modernize, lower costs, and improve their competitiveness, the outlook for machine tool sales becomes brighter," commented James A. Gray, President of the Association.

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Orders for new machine tools totaled almost $184 million, down 8% from July and 8.3% from August, 1984. Cumulative orders for the first eight months of 1985 totaled $1.75 billion, down 6.7% from the same period in 1984.

Orders for metal cutting machine tools, at $130.2 million in August, fell 13.1% from July, were off 3.6% from August, 1984, but up 8.6% for the first eight months of this year. Metal forming machine tool orders, totaling $53.7 million for August, were up 7.4% from July, but down 18.1% compared to August, 1984, and off 32.6% year-to-date.

Machine tool order backlogs decreased in August to $1.9 billion.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

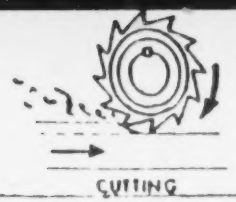
	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
August 1985	115,700	14,500	130,200	46,900	6,800	53,700	162,600	21,300	183,900
July 1985	114,850	35,000	149,850	43,050	6,950	50,000	157,900	41,950	199,850
% Change									
Aug. 1985:July 1985	+0.7	-58.6	-13.1	+8.9	-2.2	+7.4	+3.0	-49.2	-8.0
August 1984	118,250	16,750	135,000	62,000	3,600	65,600	180,250	20,350	200,600
% Change									
Aug. 1985:Aug. 1984	-2.2	-13.4	-3.6	-24.4	+88.9	-18.1	-9.8	+4.7	-8.3
Year To Date 1985	1,136,200	148,050	1,284,250	430,000	39,150	469,150	1,566,200	187,200	1,753,400
Year To Date 1984	1,031,150	151,650	1,182,800	655,250	40,800	696,050	1,686,400	192,450	1,878,850
% Change									
1985 : 1984	+10.2	-2.4	+8.6	-34.4	-4.0	-32.6	-7.1	-2.7	-6.7

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
August 1985	137,200	5,850	143,050	63,850	9,000	72,850	201,050	14,850	215,900
July 1985	111,300	13,750	125,050	63,250	6,500	69,750	174,550	20,250	194,800
% Change									
Aug. 1985:July 1985	+23.3	-57.5	+14.4	+0.9	+38.5	+4.4	+15.2	-26.7	+10.8
August 1984	111,050	5,900	116,950	44,100	3,300	47,400	155,150	9,200	164,350
% Change									
Aug. 1985:Aug. 1984	+23.5	-0.8	+22.3	+44.8	+172.7	+53.7	+29.6	+61.4	+31.4
Year To Date 1985	925,950	84,200	1,010,150	480,750	37,550	518,300	1,406,700	121,750	1,528,450
Year To Date 1984	885,100	65,000	950,100	382,600	47,200	429,800	1,267,700	112,200	1,379,900
% Change									
1985 : 1984	+4.6	+29.5	+6.3	+25.7	-20.4	+20.6	+11.0	+8.5	+10.8

Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association

Form No. PRCC-2



TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985							
Jan.	$ 195,900,000	$ 15,550,000	$ 211,450,000	1,748.30	$ 126,550,000	$ 11,250,000	$ 137,800,000
Feb.	$ 217,600,000	$ 19,900,000	$ 237,500,000	1,819.55	$ 151,650,000	$ 14,600,000	$ 166,250,000
Mar.	$ 249,750,000	$ 29,550,000	$ 279,300,000	1,871.20	$ 204,550,000	$ 23,100,000	$ 227,650,000
Apr.	$ 170,150,000	$ 13,350,000	$ 183,500,000	1,884.95	$ 161,800,000	$ 7,950,000	$ 169,750,000
May	$ 203,800,000	$ 18,900,000	$ 222,700,000	1,930.35	$ 163,800,000	$ 13,500,000	$ 177,300,000
June	$ 208,500,000	$ 26,700,000	$ 235,200,000	1,926.55	$ 222,750,000	$ 16,250,000	$ 239,000,000
July	$ 157,900,000	$ 41,950,000	$ 199,850,000	1,931.60	$ 174,550,000	$ 20,250,000	$ 194,800,000
Aug. (p)	$ 162,600,000	$ 21,300,000	$ 183,900,000	1,899.60	$ 201,050,000	$ 14,850,000	$ 215,900,000
8 Mos.	$1,566,200,000	$ 187,200,000	$1,753,400,000		$1,406,700,000	$ 121,750,000	$1,528,450,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985						
Jan.	$ 209,000,000	$ 17,850,000	$ 226,850,000	$ 13,100,000	$ 2,300,000	$ 15,400,000
Feb.	$ 230,450,000	$ 20,650,000	$ 251,100,000	$ 12,850,000	$ 750,000	$ 13,600,000
Mar.	$ 266,100,000	$ 32,350,000	$ 298,450,000	$ 16,350,000	$ 2,800,000	$ 19,150,000
Apr.	$ 176,350,000	$ 14,950,000	$ 191,300,000	$ 6,200,000	$ 1,600,000	$ 7,800,000
May	$ 216,650,000	$ 19,250,000	$ 235,900,000	$ 12,850,000	$ 350,000	$ 13,200,000
June	$ 237,300,000	$ 27,900,000	$ 265,200,000	$ 28,800,000	$ 1,200,000	$ 30,000,000
July	$ 167,150,000	$ 42,250,000	$ 209,400,000	$ 9,250,000	$ 300,000	$ 9,550,000
Aug. (p)	$ 167,000,000	$ 22,100,000	$ 189,100,000	$ 4,400,000	$ 800,000	$ 5,200,000
8 Mos.	$1,670,000,000	$ 197,300,000	$1,867,300,000	$ 103,800,000	$ 10,100,000	$ 113,900,000

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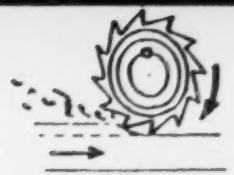
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.



INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985							
Jan.	$ 124,750,000	$ 13,000,000	$ 137,750,000	1,180.45	$ 80,600,000	$ 9,150,000	$ 89,750,000
Feb.	$ 148,050,000	$ 15,700,000	$ 163,750,000	1,235.90	$ 98,950,000	$ 9,350,000	$ 108,300,000
Mar.	$ 202,700,000	$ 24,300,000	$ 227,000,000	1,303.90	$ 140,350,000	$ 18,650,000	$ 159,000,000
Apr.	$ 112,850,000	$ 9,250,000	$ 122,100,000	1,322.85	$ 98,150,000	$ 5,000,000	$ 103,150,000
May	$ 157,350,000	$ 13,400,000	$ 170,750,000	1,374.75	$ 110,000,000	$ 8,850,000	$ 118,850,000
June	$ 159,950,000	$ 22,900,000	$ 182,850,000	1,394.60	$ 149,400,000	$ 13,600,000	$ 163,000,000
July	$ 114,850,000	$ 35,000,000	$ 149,850,000	1,419.40	$ 111,300,000	$ 13,750,000	$ 125,050,000
Aug. (p)	$ 115,700,000	$ 14,500,000	$ 130,200,000	1,406.55	$ 137,200,000	$ 5,850,000	$ 143,050,000
8 Mos.	$1,136,200,000	$ 148,050,000	$1,284,250,000		$ 925,950,000	$ 84,200,000	$1,010,150,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985						
Jan.	$ 136,250,000	$ 14,050,000	$ 150,300,000	$ 11,500,000	$ 1,050,000	$ 12,550,000
Feb.	$ 158,900,000	$ 16,400,000	$ 175,300,000	$ 10,850,000	$ 700,000	$ 11,550,000
Mar.	$ 212,600,000	$ 27,050,000	$ 239,650,000	$ 9,900,000	$ 2,750,000	$ 12,650,000
Apr.	$ 117,000,000	$ 10,200,000	$ 127,200,000	$ 4,150,000	$ 950,000	$ 5,100,000
May	$ 163,800,000	$ 13,700,000	$ 177,500,000	$ 6,450,000	$ 300,000	$ 6,750,000
June	$ 187,050,000	$ 24,050,000	$ 211,100,000	$ 27,100,000	$ 1,150,000	$ 28,250,000
July	$ 121,550,000	$ 35,250,000	$ 156,800,000	$ 6,700,000	$ 250,000	$ 6,950,000
Aug. (p)	$ 119,900,000	$ 15,250,000	$ 135,150,000	$ 4,200,000	$ 750,000	$ 4,950,000
8 Mos.	$1,217,050,000	$ 155,950,000	$1,373,000,000	$ 80,850,000	$ 7,900,000	$ 88,750,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1c

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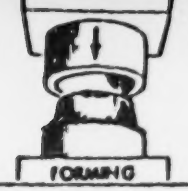

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	NET NEW ORDERS Foreign	NET NEW ORDERS Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	SHIPMENTS Foreign	SHIPMENTS Total
1985							
Jan.	$ 71,150,000	$ 2,550,000	$ 73,700,000	567.85	$ 45,950,000	$ 2,100,000	$ 48,050,000
Feb.	$ 69,550,000	$ 4,200,000	$ 73,750,000	583.65	$ 52,700,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 57,950,000
Mar.	$ 47,050,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 52,300,000	567.30	$ 64,200,000	$ 4,450,000	$ 68,650,000
Apr.	$ 57,300,000	$ 4,100,000	$ 61,400,000	562.10	$ 63,650,000	$ 2,950,000	$ 66,600,000
May	$ 46,450,000	$ 5,500,000	$ 51,950,000	555.60	$ 53,800,000	$ 4,650,000	$ 58,450,000
June	$ 48,550,000	$ 3,800,000	$ 52,350,000	531.95	$ 73,350,000	$ 2,650,000	$ 76,000,000
July	$ 43,050,000	$ 6,950,000	$ 50,000,000	512.20	$ 63,250,000	$ 6,500,000	$ 69,750,000
Aug. (p)	$ 46,900,000	$ 6,800,000	$ 53,700,000	493.05	$ 63,850,000	$ 9,000,000	$ 72,850,000
8 Mos.	$ 430,000,000	$ 39,150,000	$ 469,150,000		$ 480,750,000	$ 37,550,000	$ 518,300,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	GROSS NEW ORDERS Foreign	GROSS NEW ORDERS Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	CANCELLATIONS Foreign	CANCELLATIONS Total
1985						
Jan.	$ 72,750,000	$ 3,800,000	$ 76,550,000	$ 1,600,000	$ 1,250,000	$ 2,850,000
Feb.	$ 71,550,000	$ 4,250,000	$ 75,800,000	$ 2,000,000	$ 50,000	$ 2,050,000
Mar.	$ 53,500,000	$ 5,300,000	$ 58,800,000	$ 6,450,000	$ 50,000	$ 6,500,000
Apr.	$ 59,350,000	$ 4,750,000	$ 64,100,000	$ 2,050,000	$ 650,000	$ 2,700,000
May	$ 52,850,000	$ 5,550,000	$ 58,400,000	$ 6,400,000	$ 50,000	$ 6,450,000
June	$ 50,250,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 54,100,000	$ 1,700,000	$ 50,000	$ 1,750,000
July	$ 45,600,000	$ 7,000,000	$ 52,600,000	$ 2,550,000	$ 50,000	$ 2,600,000
Aug. (p)	$ 47,100,000	$ 6,850,000	$ 53,950,000	$ 200,000	$ 50,000	$ 250,000
8 Mos.	$ 452,950,000	$ 41,350,000	$ 494,300,000	$ 22,950,000	$ 2,200,000	$ 25,150,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1d

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News Release

Contact: Charles Pollock
Michael Codel
FOR RELEASE: October 28, 1985

MACHINE TOOL ORDERS FALL

SHIPMENTS RISE

For the first nine months of 1985, machine tool orders have fallen 11% while shipments have increased 11%, according to data compiled by the National Machine Tool Builders' Association.

During September, machine tool orders fell 40% from their rate one year ago, reaching a level of $171,650,000. Compared to August, this order rate is off 7%. "The U.S. machine tool industry had finally struggled up to its previous recessionary lows, and now we seem to be on another downslide," said James A. Gray, president of the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. "Since June we have observed a steady decline in orders from $235 million to September's $172 million.

"We know that the business investment dollars are there. We know that our products are competitive. And we know that American industry has the desire to buy capital equipment to modernize. What is missing is a vision of a growing future for manufacturing." Gray said.

"In 1981, the President lead us to a pro-expansion, pro-investment, pro-savings tax program that, once it took hold, lead us out of the recession. Even the machine tool industry, always one of the last to recover, was showing signs of rejuvenation, as evidenced by the growth in shipments." Gray stated. During September, machine tool shipments

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rose 12% from their August level, to a total value of $242,550,000. This shipment rate is 15% above the rate one year ago. The excess of shipments over orders resulted in a sharp, $71 million, decline in the industry's backlog of unfilled orders.

"Falling orders and backlogs are the clear result of the Congress' and Administration's protracted proposals and discussions of changes that would gut the salutary effects of the 1981 tax law. What began as an approach to developing a fair and simple tax code has turned into a dog-eat-dog battle for tax revenues at the expense of business, savings, investment and economic growth," Gray said. "As Congress debates, business investment plans languish, while capital purchases to create jobs, increase competitiveness, and provide for future growth, are deferred.

"These absurd tax proposals must be laid to rest -- and quickly!" Gray emphasized. "Continued delay will make recessionary predictions a self-fulfilling prophecy. Enactment of the current proposals will, as noted economist Norman Ture has stated, sound the death knell for manufacturing in America."

During September, orders for metal cutting type machine tools, which were 46% below last September's rate, declined 8% from their August level. Metal forming machine orders, off 21% from last year, were off 5% from August.

Shipments of metal cutting type machine tools rose 21% during September, to a rate that is 15% higher than it was one year ago; while metal forming shipments, which slid 5% during the month, reached a total that is 16% higher than it was one year ago.

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